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SAN FRANCISCO NAVAL SHIPYARD
SAN FRANCISCO. 24. CALIFORNIA

72-4/29-6(46451)
(390)/Rn

AUG 27 1947

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From: Commander, Naval Shipyard, San Francisco
To: Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (Code 74)

Subj: Weekly Radiological Safety Inspection Report

Ref: (a) BuMed conf disp 391600 of July 1947.

Encls: (A) Radiological Safety Inspection Report of Week Ending
23 August 1947.
(B) Copy of Local Radiological Safety Instructions.

1. Enclosures (A) and (B) are forwarded in compliance with reference (a).
2. The Radiological Decontamination Center, Bldg. 507, is being modified to exercise better control over personnel passing through as indicated in enclosure (A). Plans for the required alterations have been completed and actual work is expected to commence in the immediate future.
3. Steps have been taken to procure a supply of authorized masks to substitute for the Army and Navy type masks currently in use. Meanwhile, a supply of fifty Hillson type masks now on hand is being put to immediate use.

PHILIP LEMLER

CC: BuShips (Code 689)
(w/encl (A))

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SAN FRANCISCO NAVAL SHIPYARD
SAN FRANCISCO, 24, CALIFORNIA

49-6/12-4
Code 20 : 31

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23 August 1947

WEEKLY RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 23 AUGUST 1947

1. Since this is the first of the weekly Radiological Safety reports it is deemed advisable to give a brief summary of existing Radiological Safety set-up here.
2. Radiological safety personnel attached to the Radiation Laboratory prepare jointly with the Special Projects Superintendent (CRCSERMAIS) of the Shipyard the radiological safety precautions to be followed and the radiological safety procedures to be effected. Each person who is expected to board the SHOSERMAIS on-target vessels is required to read and indicate by his signature that he understands the current radiological safety precautions and procedures at the time that he takes his physical examination. These instructions are supplemented from time to time by lectures delivered by qualified medical personnel attached to the Radiation Laboratory.
3. The decontamination center and special decontamination laundry are under the cognizance of the Radiation Laboratory. Supervision of radiological safety procedures on the target vessels is under the cognizance of the Special Projects Superintendent with assistance and advice from the Radiation Laboratory. Regular inspections are conducted by the Radiological Health and Safety Officer and by the laboratory monitors to insure that there is no spread of contamination and that procedures in use are sound and adequate.
4. Experience has indicated that the decontamination center has several features of design which can be improved to make possible closer supervision of the operation of the center with less supervisors and to provide for better channeling of personnel to prevent deviation from the desired routes and sequence of procedures. The principal factors contributing to the difficulties experienced are the arrangement and distribution of the dressing room facilities and the plurality of possible routes of passage through the center.
5. On the basis of a careful study of the decontamination center facilities and procedures, the following improvements in design are contemplated:

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(a) Provision of only one access for clean personnel and one access for contaminated personnel.

(b) Concentration of all clean dressing room facilities into one space.

(c) Modification of routes to provide for direct channeling of personnel in one direction only through the steps in the desired sequence.

(d) Complete segregation of clean and contaminated areas with no access from one to the other except over the regular personnel decontamination routes.

A complete description of the modified facilities with plans will be included in a separate report.

6. Careful policing aboard target ships is required to insure strict mask discipline. This is considered attributable to the normal aversion to wearing Army or Navy gas masks which is understandable in view of the discomfort in breathing and the restricted vision suffered while wearing these masks. This aversion will undoubtedly be removed when the Willson and MSA type masks currently authorized as substitutes in the immediate future. Mask discipline will then be much more easily enforceable.

Submitted:

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Radiological Health and
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